Vol. III. Numb. 44.

The British Apollo:

OR,

Curious Amusements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are Added the most

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domestick.

Perform'd by some of the Society of GENTLEMEN, Concern'd in the First and Second VOLUME, with the Assistance of other Ingenious PERSONS.

From Wednesday July 5th. to Friday July 7th. 1710.

PROPOSALS for Printing the First Volume of the *BRITISH APOLLO* in Octavo, which is now in the Press, and will be Publish'd in *Michaelmas-Term* next, are to be had at Mr. *Clark*'s Bookseller in *Birchin-Lane*, near the *Royal-Exchange*, Mr. *Carter*'s at the *Rose* and *Crown*, in St. *Paul*'s-*Church-Yard*, Mr. *Harbin*'s at the *Rose* next Door to the *Globe-Tavern* in the *Strand* near *Charing-Cross*, and of the Printer hereof, *J. May*, over against *Water-Lane Fleet-Street*, or of the Men in their Walks.

GENTLEMEN,

Q. IN Isaiah, Chap. 22. Ver. 1. *Are (if I Remember) these Words.*

Thou Valley of Vision, what aileth thee now, that thou art wholly gone up to the House-Top?

Pray, Gentlemen, *Explain this*, *And you will Oblige*, *Your Humble Servant*, &c.

A. By the *Valley of Vision* is meant *Judea* and *Jerusalem* which are environed with Mountains, and because therein was Plenty of Visions Revealed to God's Prophets. And the *going up to the House-Tops*, signifies either the Peoples Fear of their Enemies, and going up thither as to a Place of more Safety, or their Crying out from thence for Succor, or their bewailing themselves there, as was Customary with the *Jews* when any Calamity befel them.

Q. Gentlemen, *I being a Subscriber to your Paper, desire your Answer to the following Question*, viz.

In the 6421 *Year of the* Julian *Period, what is the Cycle of the Sun, Moon and* Roman *Indiction, and what Year of our Lord Answers the said Year of the* Julian *Period.*

A. The *Julian* Period, being made by the Multiplication of these three Cycles into one another, it must necessarily follow that any given Year of the said Period being divided by those Cycles, which are 28, 19 and 15, the Remainders must give the Years of the Cycles required. Accordingly in the Year 6421, the Cycle of the Sun is 9, of the Moon 18, and of the Indiction 1. As to the other Question; from the Year given 6421, Subtract the Years of the *Julian* Period before the Birth of *Christ*, *viz.* 4713, and there will remain 1708, which is the Year of *Christ*, Answering to the given Year of the *Julian* Period.

Q. Gentlemen, *Upon a Perusal of your Papers I do not find that you have given us your Opinion concerning that most Famous Question so much discoursed of by Philosophers*, viz. *Woether there is a* Vacuum *in Nature. I desire you therefore to do it the first Opportunity.*

A. Our Opinion is, that the Arguments usually offered in Defence of a *Vacuum* are unanswerable and really amount to a Demonstration, especially that which Sir *Is. Newton*, Proposes in the 3*d* Book of his *Principia*. He found that the Different Weight of Bodies at the same Distance from the Earth depends entirely upon the different quantity of Matter that is in them. From whence he justly argues, that if all Places were full of Matter, then wou'd all Bodies have the same Weight, because there cou'd not possibly be any Difference in the Specific Gravity of Bodies, upon Supposition of a *Plenum* or of an equal quantity of Matter every where; and so a Cube of Gold wou'd not be heavier than an equal Cube of Air, and consequently it wou'd be impossible for the one to overballance the other, which yet is contrary to all Experience. If then there is a greater quantity of Matter in some Bodies than in others, it plainly follows that those more rare Bodies are not not full of Matter, and consequently that there are some void *Spatiola* left to receive more. The same is plainly enough proved from the Condensation and Rarefaction of Bodies, and also from the Motion of Bodies. But these being known Arguments it will be needless to insist upon them.

Q. Gentlemen, *I desire you to inform me of the Signification of this Motto in the Arms of* England, viz. Dieu & mon Droit, *and how long it has been used. For two Persons having Discoursed upon this Point were Resolved to acquiesce in your Judgment which you are desired to Communicate as speedily as you can in one of your Papers, and you will Oblige them, but more particularly,*

Your Humble Servant, J. B—tr—m.

A. This Question being sent to us in *French*, we have according to our usual Manner turn'd into *English*. This Motto was first taken up by King *Richard* the *1st.* to signify that he held his Crown of God only, and not in Vassalage of any Mortal Man. It was Resumed again by King *Edward* the *3d.* upon his first laying Claim to the Crown of *France*, from whose Time it has been constantly used by our Kings, till the late King *William*, excepting Queen *Elizabeth* who took up Her Present Majesty's Motto, *Semper Eadem.*

Q. Gentlemen, *I have been a Subscriber to your Papers a long time, but never sent you a Question to Resolve for me before this time, therefore I Humbly beg the favor of you to Solve the following Questions.*

Imprimis, *To give me Description of the Inside of an Organ, very Precise and Exact, because I was last* Sunday *up in St.* Michael's Cornhill *Organ-Gallery; where I heard such Music as would Charm a* Jove. *Also I Pray you tell me which are the best Books for the Learning and True Knowledg of that sort of Music, and where I may meet with the* Psalms *Tunes as Mr.* Philip Hart *Plays them, and you'll Infinitely Oblige,* *Your Humble Servant,*

William Gregory.

A. It is not our Business to give Descriptions of Pieces of Art, but the Rational Causes of Effects arising from them. Your Curiosity will be best satisfy'd, by applying your self, to some Artificer, whose Business it is to make that Noble Instrument: In which you will find much Art display'd in the Order of the Pipes, the different Kinds, for various Keys, Conveyances of Wind, &c. Nor will it be to much purpose for us to acquaint you with Books, for Learning that Music, since no sort of Music is to be acquir'd to any Degree of Perfection, without the Assistance of a Good Master. Nor indeed are any of them of much use to any Persons, but to such as are Proficients, and have acquir'd some Skill. But why must the Organs at *Cornhill*, because they Charm'd our Querist, by Consequence Charm a *Jove*, except he thinks himself a Competitor with him, in Skill and Judgment!

Q. *You that are fam'd for Discussing Hard and Knotty Questions, and Abstruse Sayings, and for Inventing Old Wives Stories, Calculated for the Originals of Ancient Adages, are desired to Answer the following Difficulty*, viz.

Quæritur, *Whence the Original of that Common and seemingly Unaccountable Saying*, that (*when it Rains and the Sun Shines both at one time*) the Devil is then Beating his Wife with a Shoulder of Mutton.

Yours, Mercurius *alias* Hermes Trismegistus.

A. Very Unaccountable indeed, as are all Ridiculous Sayings founded upon neither Sense nor Reason and yet it is not strange they shou'd be continued from one Generation to another; nay, nor that they shou'd come from more Tongues than Wiser, since there be so many more Fools in the World than Wise Men, who take every thing that is Ridiculous for a Jest, they look not for any meaning, since if there were any, they cou'd not take it. The Original of such we take to be this; That Despicable part of Mankind, who have nothing but their Figure to distinguish them from Brutes, observing Men of Sense, to gain a Reputation from some Significant Expressions they Casually utter, wou'd endeavor to Ape them, by throwing forth some absurd Matters, which if they happen to be Laugh'd at by People of equal Talents with themselves, they think they immediately Rival the other: But we will not Estimate our Querist as one of these, since not being Happy in so much Invention, as to be Author of such a Saying he Humbly Contents himself with being the bare Rehearser. And doubtless with much Satisfaction, since thereby he distinguishes himself from those who have not a Capacity, either to Invent or Repeat such Notable Matters.

Q. Gentlemen, *I am going into the Country where I shall spread your Fame, being an Admirer of your Oracles, but must first desire your Solution of the following Question*, viz.

Put Case, my Father and Mother had not known each other, what would have become of me or where should I have been now, if you think it Foolish, impute it to a Nymph's Weakness who thinks it Mysterious. Pray, fail not to Answer it in your next,

And you will Oblige, Yours, PHILIS.

A. Your Question, Fair Nymph amounts to no more than this, *Supposing you had never been, what had you been?* For had not your Father and Mother *known* each other, they certainly had not gotten a Daughter; If you mean *known*, in the Scriptural Sense, in such Case; but if you mean *known*, according to the Common Acceptation, of being acquainted with each other, and that your Father might have got you by Chance in the Dark, without seeing your Mother, then we Answer, you had been, just where you are now.

POEMS.

Q. APOLLO, *since you Condescend to Smile,*
And show'r your Blessings on this thankful Isle;
By which Mankind you have improv'd far more,
Than all their Lit'rature hath done before;
Your Skill in every Science most profound,
Your Reasons Cogent and your Judgment Sound;
Where shou'd we in our Doubts, but at your Shrine
Apply, your Oracles *be'ng all Divine:*
O see our Miseries and Counsel those
Who fly those Favors, which kind Heav'n *bestows.*

Behold what Factions *in this Kingdom rage,*
Scarce to be parallell'd in any Age;
As if we fear'd upon approaching Peace,
All the Misfortunes we've endur'd shou'd cease,
Relations *with* Relations *can't agree,*
Nearness in Blood increasing Enmity:
And yet while violently they contend,
Both publickly declare the self same End,
The Protestant Religion *and the* Cause
Of Common-weal *and* Constituted Laws:
Strange Paradox! while each thus fiercely Burns,
One Interest *shou'd yet serve both their Turns,*

That

That since one Journey's End *both wish to know,*
They thus shou'd quarrel 'bout the Ways *they go!*

When Great Vespatian *with his Forces lay*
Before Jerusalem, Intestine Fray,
When he Demurr'd, destroy'd the Jews *far more*
Than all his fierce Assaults had done before;
But when he made Attacks they next way Joyn'd,
And as their Cause was one, were of one Mind;
But when the Enemy is on our Backs,
We Aid by Home Divisions *their Attacks:*
If we avoid by Miracles o'ercome,
Another 'tis, we're not Destroy'd at Home.

Obsay, Apollo, *say the Fatal Thing,*
From whence these dreadful Consequences Spring,
And tell (if therein Nature *is) a* Cure,
That we may not the sad Effects Endure:
And thus you'll future Generations raise,
In Brighter Strains to sing your Deathless Praise.

A. From *Folly* and from *Vanity* arise
These Evils, which our Conquer'd *Reason* flys:
Each wou'd be thought *Infallible,* and all
The rest must into wretched Errors fall;
When Errors to such Fools do most belong,
The Wiseman always fears He's in the Wrong:
How weak, inept, Intollerably vain,
Is't for a Man to think his peircing Brain,
All *Polemicks* and *Politicks* can read,
And nothing is too knotty for his Head;
Tho' many things he ev'ry Day may Spy,
In *Nature* obvious to his Naked Eye,
Whose Cause or Effects he knows no more,
Than he can things in unknown Worlds explore;
Yet where He'll Sentence pass all must Submit
To his vast Judgment and Transcendent Wit,
While he disdains to yield to any Sense,
That's not his own, but's always on Defence;
Full of *Himself,* he ne'er will grow more Wise,
Nor ne'er be lesser Fool in other's Eyes.

Thus when two meet, each Ign'rant in his Cause,
Yet each pretends to give the other Laws;
Shou'd one to stronger Reason yeild he'd loose
His *Honor,* since his want of Sense, it shews
His Weakness is Discover'd if he yeild,
Better than *own* his Loss, to *loose* the Field.

Alas! this all is wrong, more *Glory*'ll rise,
To *own* his *Error,* than to think himself *o'erwise,*
Besides by this, he'll more Improvement find,
And ev'ry Day Enlighten more his Mind!

Thus *Factions* first from *Ignorance* take Birth,
And then by *Vanity* support their Growth.

The *Cure* is this, you must suspect each (Thought,
And let it to another's Test be brought,
Let it be argu'd *Pro* and *Con,* and hear
Both sides too, with a most Impartial Ear.
These Methods took it will at last be found,
That neither side can fairly keep their Ground;
Neither will find themselves so free from Flaws,
But from some Points may part with in their Cause.
Neither so Perfect, but they may submit,
In some things, 'thout Impeachment to their Wit;
While He who always stands on's *own Defence,*
Shews no *Good Manners,* and much *want of Sense.*

GENTLEMEN, *Accept this Poor Offering of my Willing* MUSE, *And you will Oblige,*

Your Humble Servant, H. W.

LET Antiquated *Athens* boast no more,
Of her Renowned Philosophic Store,
Let the Beau Wits of *Paris* Cease to Sway,
For here are greater *Solomon*'s then they.
Well may you say your *Origin's Divine,*
For that you shew in every *Thought* and *Line,*
The Sparkling *Wit* that Shines thro' all your Verse,
Those *Flights* of Soul (Prodigious to Rehearse)
And Weighty *Sense,* that underneath doth lye,
Are Pregnant Proofs of your Divinity.
GREAT ORACLE! how forcing is thy Sense,
That over all it has such Influence!

The Daring *Atheist* finds himself Provok'd
To Rev'rence him, who just before he Mock'd;
The Wav'ring *Sceptic* now begins to see,
And owns there's such a Thing as certainty:
The Wary *Deist* who (for Reason) Cries,
And wont believe in Holy Mysteries,
Because they are Improbabilities,
Now owns these unconceived Verities,
Faith gains a Triumph and Bold *Reason* Flies.
In *You* we find a Common Treasury,
Of *Learning, Wit* and *Ingenuity;*
Here *Lover*'s are Inform'd, their Doubts Resolv'd,
Their *Hopes* Encourag'd and their *Fears* dissolv'd:
Here we see *Nature* stript of *Mystery,*
Her *Mind* disclos'd and from all Cloudings free,
And *Art* Improv'd in the High'st Degree;
In *You,* strange Scene of *Miracles* we see,
All *Words* and *Thoughts* are wanting to express,
Your Worth: Stop *MUSE,* for we must think the (rest.
Go on *Sage Bards,* Consummate your Design,
Diffusion is a *Grace* of *Heav'nly Kind;*
Let no such Oar be lost like a Neglected Mine:

Kind

Kind Heav'n ne'er gave a large Capacity,
To let it Sleep it Dark Obscurity,
No,————————
But t' Instruct unapt *Mortality.*

☞ Any Person may have the *Index* to the Second Volume of the *British Apollo*, also whole Sets Bound or Unbound, and Single Sheets to make up Sets of the said Volume, of the Men in their Walks, or of *J. Mayo*, over against *Water-Lane, Fleet-Street.*

SIR,

THE Letters from Berlin, June the 28th Advise that on Tuesday last his Prussian Majesty Received an Account from Holland, that the Plate which belonged to Prince Frederick Henry of Orange valued at Fifty Thousand Crowns, was delivered to Monsieur Schmettau, his Envoy at the Hague, and he hath dispatch'd Orders to have it sent forthwith thither; That General Janus is Marching with a Considerable Body of Muscovites to joyn the Saxons and Poles, which are to Encamp on the Frontiers between Poland and Pomerania, and 'tis said, the Czar himself designs to join the King of Poland, which gives great uneasiness to the Swedish Envoy at that Court, who apprehends they design to March into Pomerania, an Army being assembled on that Frontier; when there is no longer a Pretext of Punishing the City of Dantzick; That all the Differences between His Polish Majesty and that City relating to their Behavior with regard to the King of Sweden are finally determined; That the Letters from Warsaw, of the 20th Instant say, That according to Advices from Bender of the 25th of May last, the King of Sweden and the Palatin of Kiow continued at Bender, and that the Cham of Crim Tartary was returned into his own Dominions.

The Letters from Cowes, July the 3d. Advise That a Prize from Newfoundland, has brought Advice that some English Gallies had destroyed the French Fishery there; From Portsmouth July the 4th. They Write that the Day before General Erle reviewed in that Place the Regiments of Brigadier Livesay, the Marquis de Montandre, the Lord Mark Kerr, and Colonel Windsor.

London, July the 7th. On Tuesday last, the Parliament met at Westminster, Pursuant to the last Prorogation, and was further Prorogued by Commission to the 18th Instant.

Which is all from Yours, *&c.*

Any Persons in Town may have these Papers brought to their Houses at 3 *s. per* Quarter, by directing to Mr. *Carter*, at the *Rose* and *Crown* in St. *Paul's Church-yard*, Mr. *Bickerton*, at the *Rose* and *Crown* in *Little-Britain*, or to the Printer hereof, superscrib'd to the *British Apollo.* N. B. All that begin within the Quarter to pay on Quarter-day a Penny for each Paper they have had. All Questions to be directed in the manner, but none will be answer'd out of the Country, where Postage is not paid.

WHEREAS ALL THE SETS OF THE FIRST Volume of the *BRITISH APOLLO* have been for some time dispos'd of, tho' none under 15 *s.* 6 *d. per* Set, Bound. The said Vol. containing about 2000 Answers to Curious Questions, in most Arts and Sciences, approv'd of by many of the most Learned and Ingenious, of both Universities and of the Royal Society, is now Reprinting in Octavo by Subscription. The Terms are, each Subscriber to pay 2 *s.* 6 *d.* in Hand, and 2 *s.* 6 *d.* on the Delivery of each Book, Neatly Bound, Gilt Edges and Letter'd on the Back, none will be Sold under 6 *s.* by Reason there will be but very few Printed more then what will be Subscribed for. *Note*, It will be Carefully Corrected, Abreviated, Amended and Improv'd (without Injury to the Sense) by the Authors, that all that is Material will be Inserted. They who Subscribe for 6 Books to have a 7th Gratis, and to Booksellers their usual Allowance. Proposals may be had, and a Printed Ticket given to those who are willing to Subscribe, at Mr. *Clark's* Bookseller, in *Birchin-Lane* near the *Royal Exchange Cornhill*, Mr. *Carter's* Bookseller, at the *Rose* and *Crown* in St. *Paul's-Church-Yard*, Mr. *Harbin* at the *Rose*, next Door to the *Globe Tavern* in the *Strand*, near *Charing Cross*, or of *J. Mayo* Printer hereof, over against *Water-Lane Fleet-Street*, and of the Men in their Walks.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

There is lately Publish'd.

THE 2d Edition of Mr. *Hill's* History of the Ottoman Empire in all it's Branches, in Folio, with the Government, Policy, Religion, Customs and way of Living of the Turks in general, Illustrated with several Copper Cuts on each Material Head, and several Copies of Verses in Praise of the Author and Book, written by some of the most Ingenious Men of the Age. Printed in the same Letter and on as good *Paper* as the 1st Edition, The *Printer* having the *Propriety* of this Edition, and the Charges being lessen'd by the Cuts already Ingrav'd, all Gentlemen may have them at 12 *s. per* Book, Guilt Edges and Letter'd on the *Back*, of J. Woodward, in St. Christophers Churhyard Theadneedle Street. and J. Mayo, over against Water-lane, Fleet-street.

Licentia Poetica discuss'd: Or, the True Test of Poetry. Without which it is Impossible to *Judge of*, or *Compose*, A Correct English *Poem*: To which are added, *Critical Observations* on the *Principal*, Ancient and Modern *Poets*, viz. *Homer Horace, Virgil, Milton, Waller, Cowley, Dryden*, &c. as frequently liable to Just Censure. With some Remarks also on my Lord Duke of *Marlborough's* and Maj. Gen. *Stanhope's* Letters Commendatory of the Earl of *Peterborow's* Valor and Conduct in *Spain*, as the occasional Ground for an Excellent Epic. Poem. *London*; *Printed* for *William Carter*, at the *Rose* and *Crown* in St. *Paul's Churchyard*, 1709.

HARBIN's SHINING-JAPAN-INK, so generally Esteem'd, for this 20 Years last past, as the Best Writing-Ink Extant, for it's Transcendant Lustre and Blackness, and also for it's Duration and Unchangableness of Color, either upon Paper or Parchment, is now Improv'd even to Perfection, by the Inventer and Maker thereof *Tho. Harbin* Stationer, at the *Rose* next Door to the *Globe-Tavern* in the *Strand*, near *Charing Cross*. Sold at 6 *d.* a Bottle, by him and most Stationers and Booksellers in Town and Country.

LONDON: Printed for, and Sold by *J. Mayo*, at the *Printing-Press* against *Water-Lane* in *Fleet-Street*. Where Advertisements are Taken in.